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THE
TRYALS
 OF THE
PRISONERS
 AT THE
SESSIONS



Holden in the *Sessions-House* in the *Old-Baily*.

Which began on the Twelfth of *July*, 1682. and ended
 the Thirteenth of the same Month.

Wherein is related a True Account of all the Remarkable
 Proceedings: But more particularly, of *Robert Dod*,
 who killed the Taylor in *Covent-garden*, on the Ninth
 of *June* last.

With the Names of those Condemned, Burnt in the Hand,
 to be Transported, and Whipp'd.

L O N D O N, *July* 12.

THIS day the *Sessions* began in the *Old Baily*, where several Persons were Tried for Felonies, Murder, and other Crimes; whereof the most remarkable were these that follow.

John Smith had an Indictment preferred against him, for stealing three Silver Tankards from *Richard Green* a Victualler in *St. Dunstons West*, on the twenty third past, which, upon his being apprehended, he confessed, and offered to make satisfaction; which being

being refused, he was committed to *Newgate*: so that being well tutor'd there, he denied all he had formerly said: Yet it appearing plain, he was found Guilty; as likewise of another Indictment, for stealing a Silver Full-pot from one Mr. *Angel*.

Timothy Summerfet was tried for stealing four Bushels of Meal from one Mr. *Wilkinson* near the *Tamer*, with whom he lived in the nature of a Servant; the which, upon reading his Indictment, he confessed.

Thomas Wynne was tried for stealing a Tankard from *Josias Webster* of *St. Andrews Underhaft*, the nature of the Fact thus. The Prisoner coming into the Inn where the Prosecutor lived, called for Drink; but whilst the Tapsters were busie, he went away with it: and afterwards being taken by Thief takers, he confessed where he had pawned it, and thereupon was found Guilty; although upon his Trial he disowned all that he had formerly said.

Thomas Pope was tried upon an Indictment preferred against him by one *Thomas Orbe*, for stealing Pewter Dishes, and other things; and being taken by the Watch, he was questioned by the Constable how he came by them? whereto he replied, *They were his own, and that he lived in the Cole yard in St. Giles's, and that he was carrying them to the Sign of the Bell in Friday-street*: But he being sent to *New-Prison*, the next day he sent to the Owner, and declared what he had done, promising Satisfaction: So that upon this Evidence given in Court, he was found Guilty.

Walter Jones being Arraigned, and put upon his Trial, for stealing several Parcels of Goods of great Value, pleaded Guilty to that, and all other Indictments under the Benefit of Clergy.

Paul Perren was tried for robbing *John Bates* on the twelfth of June last, at the *Bull Inn* in *Bishopsgate-street*, of four Guinies, two Half-Guinies, and — s. in Silver, and his Shoulder knot; which appeared thus: The person robbed coming drunk into the Inn, the person he pretended had robbed him took acquaintance with him, and after long drinking together, went to bed with him, contrary to his mind; and that when he rose the next morning, he found himself robbed, and thereupon charged *Perren* with the Robbery, who as strongly denied it; but upon search, the Shoulder-knot and a Knife was found in his Breeches, but none of the Gold nor Silver. *Perren* alledged on his Trial, That himself was likewise in Drink, and that the person who prosecuted him forced him to stay with him; which in some measure appearing by a former Company the Prisoner was in, he was brought in *Not Guilty*.

William Warraine came upon his Trial for the Murder of *John Fletcher*, a Youth; the matter thus. The Evidence declared upon Oath, That the party dead being abroad on *May 29* last, was knock'd down at the Bonfire within *Ludgate*, and there received so many Bruises, that he died thereof on the fourth of June following; and that in the time he lay languishing, he accused the Prisoner, saying, *He verily believed him to be the Person that struck him, naming his Name, and saying, If he might but see him, he doubted not but that he should know him*: But the Party (though desired) refused to come. Yet there being but a bare Suspicion, he was cleared.

John

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John Robinson came upon his Trial, for breaking open the Chamber of *Sir Thomas Little* of the Temple, about the beginning of *March* last, and taking away a Cloak lined with Silk, a Silk Sute, an Embroider'd Belt, Curtains, and some Linen, which he conveyed away by Water, hiring a Person to carry them for him, who, upon notice that such Goods were lost, gave notice to the Thief-taker, who soon described him, and he being taken upon another Robbery, was charged with this Indictment; but he stoutly denied the Robbery: yet it appearing he had such Goods, and not being capable to give any account how he came by them, he was convicted of the Felony.

One *Edling* was tried for the death of *Mr. Stanley*, who died thro' a Wound he received on his Finger about two years and three months since, in *Westminster-Abby-yard*, being there set upon by three persons, of whom it appeared upon Evidence that the Prisoner was one, another of them having been formerly tried and acquitted; and therefore they laid it upon the third, who is fled into *Scotland*. Several Chyrurgeons gave it upon their Oaths, That *Mr. Stanley* died of that Wound, by reason of its festering, which caused his Arm to be cut off. But the Prisoner (although the Murder was strongly urged against him by Council) protesting he was not there, and bringing some Evidence to confirm his Assertion, the Jury cleared him.

John Scroby was tried for breaking open the Shop of *William Thomson* a Barber, on the twentieth of *July*, and taking thence six Perriwigs, and a Case of Silver tipp'd Razors, Scissars, and the like, to the value of Eight pounds; when going about to sell one of the Razors, he was apprehended, and another taken out of his Pocket; yet he denied that he ever had any part of them, pretending that those Razors were given him a long time since; but not any ways making it appear, he was convicted of the Robbery only.

John Murrell came in and took his Trial, (having been at large upon Bail) for killing *Robert Atkins*, a Child, about six years old, near *Lincolns-Inn-Fields*, by running his Coach over him: But the Jury taking it into consideration, and it appearing not to be done out of any neglect, but by meer accident, he was found *Not guilty*.

Robert Dod was tried for killing *William Catling* on the ninth day of *June* last, in *Covent-garden*. The Trial was very tedious, a Cloud of Witnesses being called on either Side; but the substance of the Evidence was, That *Robert Dod* had been formerly very intimate with the Party murder'd, and that the Party murder'd, as he suspected, used too much Familiarity with his Wife, which so far enraged his Jealousie, that he often sent for *Catling*; but it being intimated to him, that he had some Design against him, he most commonly refused, and order'd his Servants, That if at any time *Dod* came, they should deny him. This having passed for the space of two Months, at last they hapned to meet in *Covent-garden*, where, in a Tavern, after they had drank several Bottles of Wine, much Discourse hapning, they began to talk about Manhood; the person killed saying, *He fear'd no man with a Sword, so be it he had a Stick*: and as for *Dod's* Sword, he said, *It was so simple a one, that he could put it by with his Hat*. Where-
upon

upon *Dod* taking it up, began to Fence against him with the Scabbard on, making Offers and Passes, till at last the Scabbard, as he pretended, fell off; though many were of opinion he pulled it off: He thrust his Sword into the Body of *Catling* eight or nine Inches, and likewise gave him another Wound, and then breaking his Sword, fled; *Catling* dying before the Chyrurgeons could dress his Wound. But there being a Parson in *Dod's* Company, and he charged for being aiding and abetting, he discover'd where his Haunts were, so that the same Night he was taken. All that he endeavoured to prove, was, That there was no former Malice between them; so that upon my Lord Chief Baron *Mountague's* summing up the Evidence, the Jury gave in their Verdict, *That he was guilty of Manslaughter.*

Mr. John Poulney took his Trial for killing *Tho. Howard Esq;* on the eighth Instant, in *St. James's Square*. The Witnesses for the King declared, That they met, and that *Mr. Howard* drew upon *Mr. Poulney* first, and after some Passes, *Mr. Poulney* having wounded the other, disarmed him, and that then they parted, *Mr. Howard* going to the *Half-Moon Tavern*; where finding his Wound desperate, he sent for a Chyrurgeon, who told him *he was a dead man*, asking who had given him the Wound? To which he answered, *Mr. Poulney*, and that he had done it fairly, the Cause being, because he had Posted him: So that having sent for a Minister to pray for him, he, after having forgiven *Mr. Poulney*, died. *Mr. Poulney* produced several Witnesses to attest, That the Party deceased had upon a Quarrel about his Marrying a Lady he pretended to, sent him many threatening Letters, as likewise followed him over into *England*; and that upon notice he sought his Life, a Serjeant at Arms was ordered to secure them both, to whose Custody *Mr. Poulney* surrendered; but the other absconded: and he declared, That he had not seen him till such time as he met him in *St. James's Fields*, and that what he did there, was in defence of his own Life: So that, upon the whole Evidence, the Jury found it *Se defendendo*.

Thomas Mountague was tried for breaking open the Cellar of *John Burrough* in *Shoreditch*, and taking away five Pots of Butter, two of which being found about him, he was found Guilty.

John Emms and *Sarah Northern*, the first as Principal, and the last as Accessarie, were Indicted upon three Felonies and Burglaries: First, for breaking open the House of *Charles Tass*; second, for breaking open the House of *Jonathan Parson*; and thirdly, the House of *Mary Tass*. Of two of which Felonies and Burglaries *Emms* was found Guilty; but *Sarah Northern* only appearing as Accessary, she was only found Guilty for one of them.

At this Remarkable Sessions there were four condemn'd to die, viz. *John Meriday*, *John Emms*, *Mary Williams*, and *Thomas Mountague*. Seven burnt in the Hand. One to be Transported. Three to be Whipp'd. And One Fined.

Mr. Purcell, and *Robert Pounsey*, the Persons concerned in the taking away Mrs. *Sinderfield*, were Bailed.

L O N D O N, Printed for *Langley Curtis*.